

Amendments To The Specification:

In the English translation document, please delete the term --Description-- at page 1 line 1, before the title.

In the English translation document, please add the paragraph at page 1 line 4, after the title, as follows:

--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is the US National Stage of International Application No. PCT/EP2003/010327, filed September 17, 2003 and claims the benefit thereof. The International Application claims the benefits of European application No. 02020818.7 filed September 17, 2002, both applications are incorporated by reference herein in their entirety.--

In the English translation document, please add the paragraph at page 1 line 4, after the newly added CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS section, as follows:

--FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The invention relates to a method for generating and/or validating electronic signatures.--

In the English translation document, please add the section heading at page 1 line 4, after the newly added paragraph, as follows:

-- BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION--

In the English translation document, please add the section heading at page 3 line 21, as follows:

-- SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--

In the English translation document, please amend the paragraph at page 3 line 33 to page 4 line 2, as follows:

This problem is solved by the claims ~~in accordance with the invention by a method having the features that are specified in Claim 1.~~ Advantageous developments of the method according to the invention are specified in the dependent claims.

In the English translation document, please add the section heading at page 4 line 19, as follows:

--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--

In the English translation document, please add the section heading at page 4 line 29, as follows:

--DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION--